

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE  
ON  
APPROPRIATIONS**

Wednesday, May 16, 2007

2:30 p.m.

Room 352, State Capitol

The House Standing Committee on Appropriations was called to order by the Chairman, Representative George Cushingberry, Jr.

Members present: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss and Nofs.

Members absent/excused: None.

An Invocation was offered by Reverend Robert Dean, State Representative from the 75th District.

Representative Sak moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on April 24, 2007. Representative Cheeks supported the motion. Without objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Chairman Cushingberry made opening remarks concerning the budget and his disappointment with the shortfall. He recognized members of the committee for Member remarks regarding the budget.

Chairman Cushingberry laid before the Committee HB 4493.

HB 4493 Cushingberry Appropriations; supplemental; multidepartment supplemental for fiscal year 2006-2007; provide for.

The Chairman called on Mitch Bean and Kyle Jen from the House Fiscal Agency for explanation of the bill and to answer questions of the members.

Representative Spade moved to adopt substitute (H-1) Draft 3.  
Representative Lahti supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 21-7-1.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi, Shaffer, Booher, Hansen, Nofs.

NAYS: Representatives Acciavatti, Caswell, Amos, Caul, Proos, Agema, Moss.

PASS: Representative Brandenburg.

Representative Lahti moved to amend HB 4493 Sub (H-1) Draft 3 as follows.

1. Amend Page 31, following line 12, by inserting:

**“STATE POLICE”**

Sec. 233. For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, the department of state police shall maintain the operation of each Michigan state police post which was in operation as of April 2, 2007.”

Representative Nofs supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 29-0-0.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

NAYS: None.

PASS: None.

Representative Acciavatti moved to adopt the substitute (H-2) Draft 3 to HB 4493.

Representative Caswell supported the motion.

The motion failed by a vote of 12-18-0.

**UNFAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

NAYS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi.

PASS: None.

Representative Proos moved to amend HB 4493 (H-1) Draft 3.

1. Amend page 6, line 24, by striking out all of section 105 and adjusting the subtotals, totals, and section 201.

Representative Caswell supported the motion.

The motion did not prevail by a vote of 11-18-1.

**UNFAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss.

NAYS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks,

Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi.  
PASS: Representative Nofs.

Chairman Cushingberry recognized the House Fiscal Agency Staff to answer questions regarding the bill. The following Fiscal Staff responded to questions: Steve Stauff, Kirk Lindquist, Viola Wild, Marilyn Peterson.

The Chairman recognized Jim Casperson from the Department of Environmental Quality, and Barrett Whitman of the Department of Corrections answer further questions.

Representative Sak moved to report HB 4493 with recommendation as substitute (H-1).

Representative Cheeks supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 19-9-2.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi, Nofs.

NAYS: Representatives Acciaratti, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Proos, Agema, Moss.

PASS: Representatives Caswell, Hansen.

Chairman Cushingberry laid SB 210 and SB 211 before the committee:

SB 210 Switalski Vehicles; title; distribution of fee collected to expedite application process; revise.

SB 211 Switalski Vehicles; registration; distribution of revenue from collection of certain title and registration fee; earmark into the transportation administration collection fund.

Chairman Cushingberry announced that testimony cards were submitted.

Ed Noyola with the County Road Association of Michigan opposing the bills not wishing to speak.

A testimony card was also submitted by Larry Steckelberg from the Michigan Department of Treasury in support of the bills not wishing to speak.

Chairman Cushingberry called on Bill Hamilton of House Fiscal Agency for explanation and questions on the bill.

Representative Gonzales moved to amend SB 210 as follows.

1. Amend page 2, line 2, after “September 30,” by striking out “2009” and inserting “2008”

Representative Sak supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 28-1-1.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

NAYS: Representative Vagnozzi.

PASS: Representative Byrnes.

Representative Gonzales moved to report SB 210 with recommendation as substitute (H-1).

Representative Sak supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 26-3-1.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

NAYS: Representatives LeBlanc, Vagnozzi, Caul.

PASS: Representative Byrnes.

Representative Gonzales moved to amend SB 211 as follows:

1. Amend page 2, line 16, by striking out “2009” and inserting “2008”.

Representative Sak supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 28-1-1.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

NAYS: Representative Vagnozzi.

PASS: Representative Byrnes.

Representative Gonzales moved to report SB 211 with recommendation as substitute (H-1).

Representative Sak supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 26-3-1.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

NAYS: Representatives LeBlanc, Vagnozzi, Caul.

PASS: Representative Byrnes.

Chairman Cushingberry laid SB 194 before the committee:

SB 194 Switalski Education; alternative; provisions regarding financial responsibility for certain children enrolled in strict discipline academies; revise.

The Chairman called Bethany Wicksall from the House Fiscal Agency for explanation of the bill.

Representative Gillard move to report SB 194 with recommendation.

Representative Cheeks supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 30-0-0.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

NAYS: None.

PASS: None.

Chairman Cushingberry laid HB 4766 before the committee:

HB 4766 Gonzales Retirement; investments; employer contribution; revise.

Chairman Cushingberry recognized Al Valenzio from the House Fiscal Agency for an explanation of the bill.

Representative Gonzales moved to report HB 4766 with recommendation.

Representative Gillard supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 30-0-0.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

NAYS: None.

PASS: None.

Chairman Cushingberry announced the Committee would proceed to take up the transfer package on the agenda.

The Chairman called on the House Fiscal Agency staff member Margaret Alston to give further explanation of the transfers and to answer questions.

Representative Sak moved to approve the transfer for the Michigan State Employees' Retirement System and the Department of Corrections.

Representative Cheeks supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote 30-0-0.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

NAYS: None.

PASS: None.

The Chairman proceeded to consideration of Ferris State University and the Midwest Higher Education Compact Reciprocal Tuition Agreement.

The Chairman called Kyle Jen of the House Fiscal Agency for explanation of the Reciprocal Tuition Agreement.

Representative Burns moved to approve the Agreement between Ferris State University and the Midwestern Higher Education Commission for participation in the Midwest Student Exchange Program.

Representative Booher supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote 30-0-0.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

YEAS: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

NAYS: None.

PASS: None.

Chairman opened the floor for member remarks. Representative Byrnes commented.

There being no further business before the committee Representative Shaffer moved that the committee adjourn. Seeing no objection, Chairman Cushingberry adjourned the meeting, the time being 4:00 p.m.

**Representative George Cushingberry, Jr. Chair**

Darlene Moore, Committee Clerk, (517) 373-2994